

## Claims

That which is claimed is:

1. An isolated peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2;  
(b) an amino acid sequence of an allelic variant of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said allelic variant is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;

(c) an amino acid sequence of an ortholog of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said ortholog is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3; and

(d) a fragment of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises at least 10 contiguous amino acids.

2. An isolated peptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2;  
(b) an amino acid sequence of an allelic variant of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said allelic variant is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;

(c) an amino acid sequence of an ortholog of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said ortholog is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3; and

(d) a fragment of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises at least 10 contiguous amino acids.

17/02/17

3. An isolated antibody that selectively binds to a peptide of claim 2.
4. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) a nucleotide sequence that encodes of an allelic variant of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said nucleotide sequence hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;
  - (c) a nucleotide sequence that encodes an ortholog of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said nucleotide sequence hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;
  - (d) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a fragment of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises at least 10 contiguous amino acids; and
  - (e) a nucleotide sequence that is the complement of a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(d).
5. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (b) a nucleotide sequence that encodes of an allelic variant of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said nucleotide sequence hybridizes under stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;
  - (c) a nucleotide sequence that encodes an ortholog of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said nucleotide sequence hybridizes under

17/10

stringent conditions to the opposite strand of a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3;

(d) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a fragment of an amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, wherein said fragment comprises at least 10 contiguous amino acids; and

(e) a nucleotide sequence that is the complement of a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(d).

6. A gene chip comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 5.
7. A transgenic non-human animal comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 5.
8. A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 5.
9. A host cell containing the vector of claim 8.
10. A method for producing any of the peptides of claim 1 comprising introducing a nucleotide sequence encoding any of the amino acid sequences in (a)-(d) into a host cell, and culturing the host cell under conditions in which the peptides are expressed from the nucleotide sequence.
11. A method for producing any of the peptides of claim 2 comprising introducing a nucleotide sequence encoding any of the amino acid sequences in (a)-(d) into a host cell, and culturing the host cell under conditions in which the peptides are expressed from the nucleotide sequence.
12. A method for detecting the presence of any of the peptides of claim 2 in a sample, said method comprising contacting said sample with a detection agent that specifically allows detection of the presence of the peptide in the sample and then detecting the presence of the peptide.

1546

19. A method for identifying a modulator of the expression of a peptide of claim 2, said method comprising contacting a cell expressing said peptide with an agent, and determining if said agent has modulated the expression of said peptide.

23. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 22 that shares at least 90 percent homology with a nucleic acid molecule shown in SEQ ID NOS:1 or 3.

[illegible]